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Denise Schlener Appointed Chapter Director

The Nature Conservancy Connecticut Chapter is pleased to announce the appointment of Denise Schlener of New Haven as its new executive director. Schlener left her position as director of strategic planning and development for the environment at Yale University and began work at the Connecticut Chapter on September 9.

Schlener replaces Leslie N. Corey Jr., who took the position of executive director of the Conservancy's Arizona Chapter in July.

Since 1994 Schlener has directed fund raising operations and strategic planning for Yale's internationally renowned environmental units: the Institute for Biospheric Studies, the Peabody Museum of Natural History, and the School of Forestry and Environmental Studies.

"To me, she is the epitome of what we need in our environmental leaders as we prepare for the 21st century," said Robert M. Schneider of Lyme, former chair of the Chapter Board of Trustees. "Smart and experienced in the world of finances, negotiations and management, but with a life-long commitment to and

passion for protecting our environment for future generations."

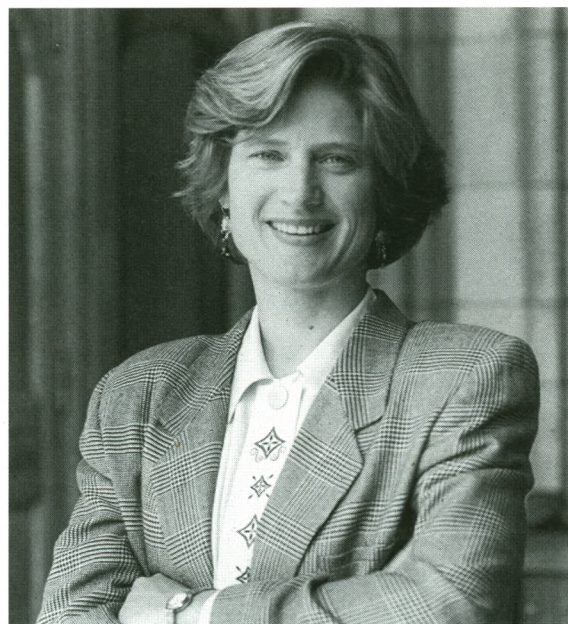
Schlener was director of foundation relations at the Natural Resources Defense Council in New York from 1989 to 1994, playing a key role in meeting the national

environmental advocacy organization's \$18 million annual budget. Before that she was program director at the Land Conservation Coalition for Connecticut in Hartford, a statewide coalition of 45 organizations, and regional director of the Connecticut River Watershed Council in Hartford for the Massachusetts-based river conservation group.

Schlener received a master of forest science degree with a concentration in environmental policy and management from the Yale School of Forestry in 1983, and majored in environmental studies at Middlebury College.

She served on the board of the Connecticut Fund for the Environment, and served on the state Department of Environmental Protection's Environment 2000 Advisory Board in 1988 and 1989.

— JOHN MATTHIESSEN



© Michael Marsland

FALL 1996

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An Inspiring Welcome

I am writing this column as I complete my first month as executive director of the Connecticut Chapter. And what a month it has been! I want to share some of my impressions and thoughts with you.

If you have ever volunteered for the chapter, or attended an event, or perhaps just read our newsletter, you'll understand what I'm about to say. Everywhere I see people — staff, members, trustees, and volunteers — who share an extraordinary dedication to the Conservancy's mission of protecting the habitat of our rarest animals and plants.

The Conservancy's ability over the years to maintain a sharp focus on this mission is frequently cited as the key to its effectiveness. The record of accomplishments is impressive indeed. By the end of 1996 more than 10 million acres will have been protected in the United States — that's three times the size of Connecticut. Here in densely populated Connecticut we've been successful in protecting more than 20,000 acres. And we have ambitious plans ahead, including fourteen projects totalling 1,250 acres that were recently reviewed by the board and staff.

But it's the people who make all this possible that make me feel truly inspired, and excited about what we can accomplish in the future. There is a pervasive atmosphere of optimism and commitment

throughout the Conservancy.

I see it daily among the staff, and I also see it among the dozens of volunteers whose contributions are truly invaluable. During my first week we held an event to thank some of these volunteers who work tirelessly through the year in the office and in the field. Their enthusiasm was contagious.

The following week, members of the Corporate Associates Program met to discuss strategies for expanding corporate participation. Several board committees met that same week to lend their advice and guidance in areas ranging from finance to stewardship of lands. And most recently, I saw it at a gathering hosted by two of our members who had opened their home to their neighbors so they could learn more about the work of the Conservancy along the Connecticut River.

I think this level of commitment not only demonstrates the inspirational force of the Conservancy's mission, but the personal values that motivate people to help us. The Conservancy's mission taps into deeply held beliefs — commitment to family, concern for future generations, belief in the right of other species to co-exist with us. Our supporters share and embrace these convictions in a variety of ways, but the Conservancy's mission ultimately motivates them all.

I have admired the work of The Nature Conservancy for years, and am deeply honored to have been chosen to lead the Connecticut Chapter into the next century. As I look ahead to all that we must do in the coming years to protect Connecticut's biological diversity, I feel fortunate and confident that with this passionate assembly of supporters, we will accomplish much. 🌱

— DENISE SCHLENER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

THE NATURE CONSERVANCY AT WORK

WORLDWIDE	CONNECTICUT
Total Transactions 17,626	660
Total Acres Protected 9,120,000	20,090
Members 800,026	17,688
Corporate Associates 1,850	34



Scenes from the dedication of the chapter's new 187-acre Hollenbeck Preserve in Canaan on September 21 (clockwise from top left): About 65 people attended the Hollenbeck dedication; Chapter Science and Stewardship Director Judy Preston, Geri Nebor of Falls River, and Lois Lounsbury of Bantam (left to right) get a closer look at the Hollenbeck plantlife; Sunny Valley Preserve Director Chris Wood (left) leads Greenville Garside of Norfolk and other guests on a walk of the new preserve; Chapter Trustee Evan Griswold of Old Lyme (left) and Director Denise Schlener.

The Den Adds 26 Acres in Redding

The Den added 26 acres adjacent to the preserve in Redding on July 19. This addition brings the preserve's total acreage to 1,746, the largest piece of contiguous dedicated conservation land in southwestern Connecticut.

The Conservancy purchased the land for \$190,000 in a bargain sale from Michael Ward and Lauren Ives Ward of Westport.

The property is abutted to the west by the Redding Land Trust's Brinkerhoff Preserve, and to the north by land protected by a conservation easement held by the land trust.

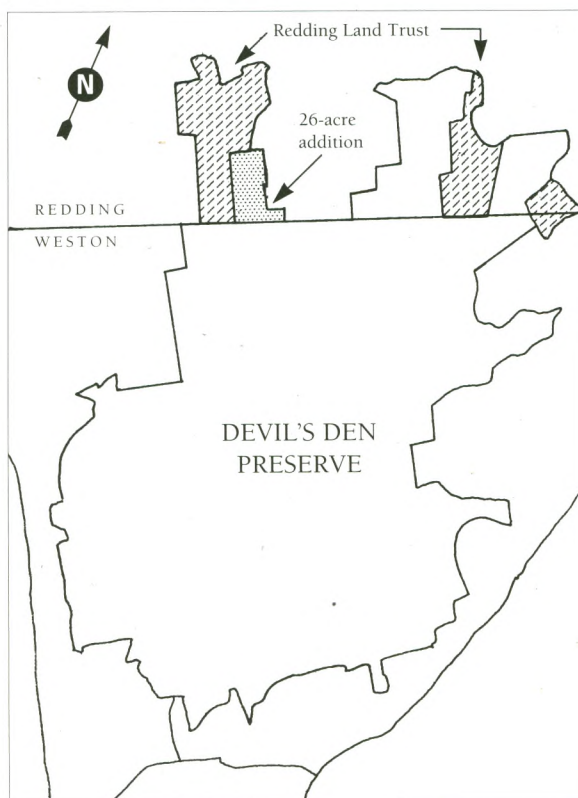
The land trust contributed \$50,000 to this purchase, a portion of a bequest from the late Joan Hollinghurst of Redding. "Both Joan and her sister Pippa were dedicated and tireless conservationists who would be pleased that their influence protected Redding habitat forever," said Redding Land Trust President Mary Ann Guitar.

"I'd like to thank Mr. Ward, the Redding Land Trust, and all our friends in the surrounding community for their support with this addition," said Den Director Dr. Stephen Patton. The Den, which made this purchase through the chapter's revolving Land Preservation Fund, is now working to raise the remaining money to repay the fund, so it will be ready for future purchases.

Dr. Patton cites The Den as the type of large forest area that is vital to the survival of migratory songbirds that nest in New England. Dr. Patton and Preserve Assistant Director Dr. Lise Hanners have been studying one such bird, the worm-eating warbler, since 1991.

"This adds an important piece to the puzzle," said Ronald W. Jeitz of Weston, chair of The Den's board and a member of the chapter board as well. "We're

particularly grateful to our friends and partners in the area, and especially the Redding Land Trust, for this conservation victory."



"The Den has made a key addition to the preserve itself, as well as to the entire region's conservation picture," said Chapter Director Denise Schlener. "The Den is not just one of the Conservancy's biggest preserves in Connecticut; it's one of the most significant pieces of conservation land in the state." 🌿

The Devil Takes a Hike

The Connecticut Chapter's largest contiguous preserve will be using a new signature with a shorter name to emphasize its connection to the Conservancy. In the new signature, shown below, the 1,746-acre Devil's Den Preserve in Weston and Redding is now simply The Den.

Although Katharine Ordway, who created the preserve through a series of donations beginning in 1966, named the preserve after her father, its popular local name "Devil's Den" has always stuck. Despite the abbreviated name in the signature, the preserve's official name remains "The Lucius Pond Ordway Devil's Den Preserve."

The change is part of a carefully planned update by The Den, including a new signature and new designs for its newsletter, "The Great Ledger," and other publications. These changes have been implemented thanks to consultation and design services donated by Bruce Blackburn of Weston, a principal in the identity, design, and communications firm Blackburn/Young/Haykel.

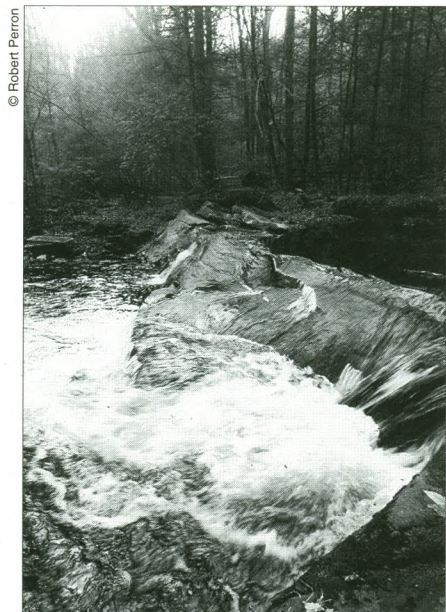
Blackburn, a past president of the American Institute of Graphic Arts and now a Den Committee member, volunteered to take on the project, and suggested taking the "devil" out of the preserve's name. "The challenge of the work was to keep the local identity of The Den, while emphasizing its identification with The Nature



Conservancy," Blackburn said. "The word 'devil' just confused the issue and design."

Two corporate donors contributed a wide range of recycled papers and printing services for the project. The Den and the Conservancy appreciate the contributions that made these important changes possible.

Chapter Adds 37 Acres to Burnham Brook Preserve



© Robert Perron

The Burnham Brook Preserve in East Haddam and Salem grew to 821 acres this year, thanks to the September acquisition of 37.7 acres from Paul S. Robertson of East Haddam.

The land is north of Dolbia Hill Road, and is bounded by the Burnham Brook Preserve to the north and west. It is adjacent to the 12-acre parcel the Conservancy acquired from Robertson in August 1995, and is part of his 15-lot subdivision on West Road.

"We are very pleased with this addition to one of our largest preserves in Connecticut, as well as to the extensive corridor of protected land in this area," said Chapter Executive Director Denise Schlener.

This land is significant for a number of reasons. More than a quarter mile of Burnham Brook runs through the steep, wooded, rocky land. Any disturbance to the area would have affected the brook, which feeds into the Eightmile River, an important tributary of the Connecticut River. State Department of Environmental Protection Fisheries Biologist Steve Gephard in 1994 referred to Burnham Brook as "classic Atlantic

salmon habitat in nearly pristine condition," adding, "The Burnham Brook Preserve contains the best salmon habitat in the entire watershed, and perhaps some of the best juvenile salmon habitat in southern New England."

The Burnham Brook Preserve provides habitat for a variety of wildlife: 180 bird species have been sighted there, as well as many reptiles, amphibians, fish and plants. Dr. Robert Askins, chair of the zoology department of Connecticut College in New London, cites Burnham Brook and nearby 1,000-acre Devils Hopyard State Park as the type of large forest area that is vital to the survival of migratory songbirds that nest in New England. The Conservancy and Connecticut College made an agreement in 1991 facilitating the preserve's use for field research and education.

The Burnham Brook Preserve was one of the chapter's first, established in 1960 by a gift of 46 acres from Dr. Richard H. Goodwin and Dr. John M. Ide. 🌿

— JOHN MATTHIESSEN

Total Funding for Stratford Great Meadows Climbs to \$8.5 Million



© Tom Falla

On behalf of The Nature Conservancy Connecticut Chapter, Den Director Dr. Stephen Patton, left, receives a \$1,000 contribution in a sack of organically grown bird seed from John Stripp of Weston, and his son, Jeff Stripp of Redding. The Stripp's own natural health food stores, Nature's Merchant Ltd. in Wilton, and The Natural Merchant in Southbury. The money represents approximately five percent of their gross sales during Earth Day observances in April. John Stripp, himself a committed environmentalist, served as a trustee of The Den.

Thanks to Sen. Joseph I. Lieberman and Reps. Rosa DeLauro and Christopher Shays, the 1997 federal budget passed by Congress in October contained \$1.7 million for acquisition of additional acres at the Great Meadows Salt Marsh in Stratford. This fourth year of funding brings the total federal appropriations at the site to \$8.5 million, which has been used by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to acquire 418 of the 454 acres under option with the owners.

One of the portions of the property to be acquired with the 1997 funds has been one of the only—perhaps the only—nesting sites in Connecticut for the northern harrier marsh

hawk (*Circus cyaneus*), an endangered species in Connecticut. Previously-acquired parts of the property are critical for the federally-threatened piping plover and several state-listed bird species.

The chapter and the Fish & Wildlife Service negotiated for three years with the Stratford Development Company to arrange a series of options covering the most ecologically critical sections of the Great Meadows. The company had been attempting to develop approximately 600 acres it owns at the site for over two decades, and is now pursuing plans to build on a much smaller portion of the property. 🌿

— DAVID SUTHERLAND

The Making of a Dragon Lady

*Crimson pepper pod
add two wings, and look
darting dragonfly.**

Surely it was a ruby meadowfly (*Sympetrum rubicundulum*) that inspired this charming verse three centuries ago. Less than 1½ inches long, this inquisitive dragonfly is indeed crimson, its dazzling color interrupted briefly by a series of minute black triangles along each side of its abdomen.

The ruby meadowfly is one of 5,000 species worldwide of the order Odonata (class Insecta), which includes both the dragonfly and damselfly families. By comparison, order Lepidoptera—the butterflies and moths—consists of 125,000 species. There are 450 species of odonates found in North America; in Connecticut only 145 have been recorded, most of them prior to the late 1920s.

In early May I began collecting, identifying and cataloguing these curious insects as part of a small band of volunteers organized by Dr. David L. Wagner, professor of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology at the University of Connecticut, who is compiling an updated survey of the odonate species in the state.

I caught my first dragonfly beside a trail I was clearing early in the spring. There at my feet was a large dragonfly cradled in a dried oak leaf. I didn't have a net with me; I picked up the dragonfly, leaf and all, and dropped it into my cooler. At home, I made a temporary shelter for the dragonfly in an aquarium covered with cheesecloth.

What would he eat? My husband Jon caught a moth and some gnats, and quickly, deftly, poked them through the gauze. They disappeared. "It's official," he said. "You're a dragon lady."

But how was I going to identify it? Fortunately, Dr. Wagner would be at our office for a meeting soon. I took the dragonfly,



A Ruby Meadowfly.

aquarium and all, in to work to show him.

"This is a keeper," Dave exclaimed, his excitement reverberating throughout the office. "It's *Helocordulia uhleri*, or Uhler's sunfly, of the family Libellulidae. This is definitely a new record for Middlesex County! We have only historical records of its existence in Connecticut." Dave plucked the sunfly from its perch and slipped it into an envelope. He and the dragonfly departed for UConn, where Dave recorded and catalogued this new specimen for the university's permanent dragonfly/damselfly collection. 🌿

— ANN COLSON

*More of the
Dragon Lady's
Adventures
next issue...*

A Locus of Biodiversity

The northwest corner of Connecticut contains the highest concentration of biological diversity in the state. Its geology, hydrology, climate and soils combine to create habitat for more than 150 rare or endangered species, many of which are unique to Connecticut.

Of equal significance is the amount of undeveloped land that remains in this corner one of the most densely populated states in the U.S. Large and ecologically significant tracts of unfragmented land still exist and represent an extraordinary opportunity for conservation. They may also represent last chance opportunities for preservation of specific species, such as interior nesting birds.

For these reasons, The Nature Conservancy Connecticut Chapter has been involved in land protection and stewardship in this area for more than 35 years.

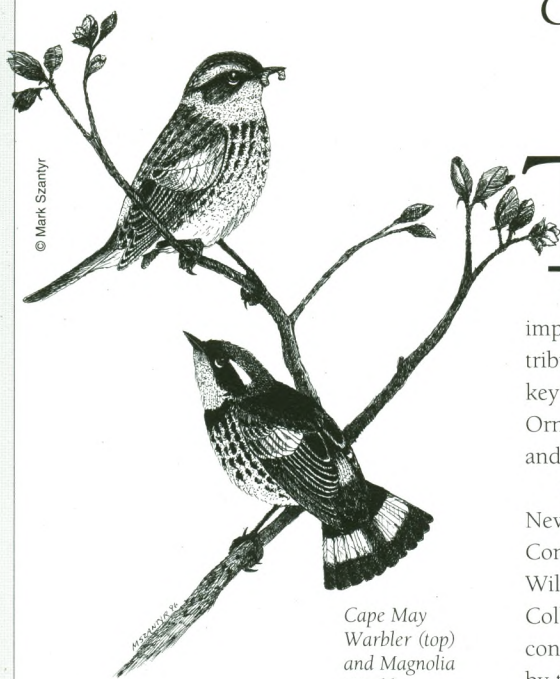
The "northwest corner" corresponds geographically with the "northwest highlands," an area defined by the land northwest of a major geologic fault, named Cameron's Line, that runs from southwest to northeast from Ridgefield to Hartland. It includes Salisbury, North Canaan, Canaan, Norfolk; Sharon, Cornwall and Kent. Other important sites exist from New Milford in the southwest to the town of Colebrook in the north, although they have a lower density of known significant species.

The northwest highlands is the most rugged and dramatic landscape in Connecticut. This area contains the state's highest elevations (up to 2,380 feet) and is characterized by steep-sided plateaus adjacent to lowland marble valleys. The highlands consist of erosion-resistant metamorphic bedrock, while the lowlands, composed of less resistant marble, are home to calcareous wetlands of a kind found nowhere else in the state.

In a regional context, the northwest highlands are an extension of the Berkshire and Taconic plateaus to the north and west. The Litchfield Hills, located in the northeastern part of the highlands, are connected to landscapes further to the north, in Vermont's Green Mountains, and to the west, within
continued on page 7

* The haiku of Basho (1644-1694), one of many Japanese verses written about dragonflies during the last fourteen centuries.

Chapter Contributes to Migratory Bird Study



Cape May Warbler (top) and Magnolia Warbler.

The Connecticut Chapter recently completed the first season of field work in a three-year study of migratory bird populations.

The study is designed to assess the importance of the Connecticut River and its tributaries as migration corridors by identifying key habitat used by migrating birds. Ornithologists are gathering data on varieties and numbers of migratory species.

Field work being conducted in Vermont, New Hampshire, Massachusetts and Connecticut, is funded by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and coordinated by Smith College. After completion of the study, conservation recommendations will be used by the Fish & Wildlife Service to protect essential migratory areas as part of the service's Silvio Conte National Wildlife Refuge.

Habitat loss for migrant birds is not only a problem on wintering and breeding grounds, but during migration as well. Migrants must navigate thousands of miles through unfamiliar areas and all types of weather conditions, avoid predators and find food to restore energy supplies, and stay on schedule to reach breeding grounds at the appropriate time for courtship and mating. Loss of suitable stopover habitat on migration routes means greater distances between

"refueling" stops, and increased exposure to predation and inclement weather. This can result in higher mortality during migration or migrant birds arriving on breeding grounds in poor condition.

For the Connecticut portion of the study, the Conservancy has hired ornithologist Mark Szantyr of Storrs. Mark has set up study plots along the Connecticut and Farmington Rivers, coordinated volunteers familiar with both breeding and migratory birds in the state, and collected the data, which he sent along to the Fish & Wildlife Service.

"The project has been quite successful in Connecticut," Mark said. "The Conservancy, the Farmington River Watershed Council and the volunteers have all worked well together in seeing this study through. We have had good cooperation from both public and private landowners in setting up our study transects, and everyone is already looking forward to the next field season."

The transects are monitored several times during spring migration, and again in June to confirm species that breed locally. The cooperation of all the involved parties will assure that the results of this important study will lead to direct, on-the-ground conservation in the coming years. 🌿

— DAVID GUMBART

MEMBER'S NICHE



Laurie Hoyt not only works full time at Cigna in Bloomfield as a financial analyst, but since February 1996 has also managed to devote one full day each month to help in the

Connecticut Chapter office.

How does she do it?

Laurie participates in Cigna's flex time program; in exchange for her one day off,

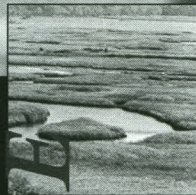
Laurie works a compressed work schedule at Cigna. A Connecticut native, Laurie chose to help the chapter because she and her husband Steve have been members for three years and says that helping an organization that "protects land for future generations" was certainly something she wanted to do.

Laurie assists with membership projects, office filing, and various mailings. Laurie is also one of two preserve monitors at the Selden Creek Preserve in Lyme. In cooperation with our preserve staff, she regularly visits the preserve to inspect its condition and report problems to us.

Laurie and her husband Steve live in Lyme and have recently become Acorn members. They look forward to attending chapter events in the future where they can continue to learn about the Conservancy and interact with other members and staff. Laurie enjoys canoeing, hiking, and "anything outdoors." Her involvement in our work and her love for nature have benefited us in countless ways. We thank you, Laurie, for your dedication and support, both in our office and out in the field!

— VUNAY TALBOT

THE NATURE CONSERVANCY CONNECTICUT CHAPTER NINETEEN NINETY-SIX ANNUAL REPORT



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Year in Review

CONNECTICUT CHAPTER BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Robert M. Schneider,
Chairman, Old Lyme
Daniel P. Brown Jr.,
Vice Chairman, West Granby
Anthony P. Grassi,
Vice Chairman, Wilton
Evan S. Griswold,
Vice Chairman, Old Lyme
J. Wyatt Uhlein,
Treasurer, Litchfield
Peter B. Cooper,
Secretary, Bethany
Mary M. Ackerly, *Norfolk*
Dr. Robert A. Askins, *New London*
Diana Atwood-Johnson, *Old Lyme*
Carroll W. Brewster, *Ridgefield*
Randolph K. Byers, *Wilton*
Kevin J. Coady, *Branford*
Stewart Greenfield, *Westport*
Eunice S. Groark, *Hartford*
Dr. Kent E. Holsinger, *Hartford*
Ronald W. Jeitz, *Weston*
Raymond A. Lamontagne, *Wilton*
Patricia L. Malcolm, *Greenwich*
John A. Millington, *Washington Depot*
Dr. Peter C. Patton, *Middletown*
Denise Schlener, *Executive Director*

The Connecticut Chapter is pleased to submit the following summary of last year's activities and accomplishments. In the 1996 fiscal year, the chapter:

- ✚ Created the new 182-acre Hollenbeck Preserve in Canaan through a bargain sale from Edmund Dean, 10 years after the property was first registered with the Conservancy.
- ✚ Secured a 47-acre conservation easement to create the Masons Island Preserve in Mystic thanks to a bequest from the late Jess and Marguerite Adkins.
- ✚ Added 12 acres to the Burnham Brook Preserve in East Haddam.
- ✚ Protected 75 acres through conservation easements on Beaver Brook in Lyme.
- ✚ Conducted or funded numerous scientific research projects across the state, including 12 projects focusing on the Tidelands of the Connecticut River, one of the Conservancy's "Last Great Places."

- ✚ Published the first interpretive trail guide for The Den Preserve in Weston and Redding thanks to funding from the Anne S. Richardson Foundation and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.
- ✚ Continued enhancing grassland habitat on the Sunny Valley Preserve in New Milford and Bridgewater and began wetlands corridor restoration with support from the Iroquois Gas Transmission System's Land Enhancement and Acquisition Fund.
- ✚ Thanks to the state's congressional delegation, \$2.5 million were included in the 1996 federal budget to protect additional land at the Great Meadows Salt Marsh in Stratford. The Conservancy has been working with its partners for more than two decades to protect this vital coastal marsh and its barrier beach from development.

We would like to thank all of our members, friends, volunteers, and conservation partners, without whom none of this would have been possible. Here's hoping for an even better year in 1997!



© John Matthiessen

VOLUNTEERS PROTECT
THE NESTS OF PIPING
PLOVERS (*CHARADRIUS
MELODUS*) IN OLD LYME,
ABOVE; THE GREAT
MEADOWS SALT MARSH
IN STRATFORD, TOP;
THE MASON'S ISLAND
PRESERVE, MYSTIC,
AT RIGHT.

We have made every effort to make the lists in this annual report accurate, but if there are errors or omissions, we'd like to hear from you.

© Leslie N. Corey Jr.



The Connecticut Chapter of The Nature Conservancy

1996 Financial Summary for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 1996

SUPPORT AND REVENUE

Membership dues*	\$445,848	\$421,756
Individual contributions and bequests	\$696,091	\$535,876
Corporate contributions	\$321,782	\$224,396
Foundation contributions	\$298,196	\$907,245
Other contributions	\$92,014	\$29,606
Proceeds from sale of gifts of tridelands	\$2,968	\$551,948
Gifts of land	\$1,449,621	\$1,355,668
Federal and state grants	\$54,081	\$108,988
Investment income**	\$1,258,514	\$684,912
Other (leases, royalties, fees, merchandising, insurance proceeds; contributed services)	\$156,920	\$163,305
<i>Total Support & Revenue Before Sales of Conservation Lands</i>	<i>\$4,776,035</i>	<i>\$4,983,700</i>

Sale of land to government partners and other conservation agencies	\$0	\$250,000
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TOTAL SUPPORT & REVENUE	\$4,776,035	\$5,233,700
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EXPENSES AND CAPITAL ALLOCATIONS

Additions of conservation land	\$1,698,400	\$1,975,017
Net amounts added to permanent capital—endowments & land preservation fund**	\$789,113	\$699,977
Conservation programs	\$1,343,368	\$1,212,495
Internal transfers (net)	\$1,276	(\$21,943)
Cost of land or easements sold to government partners and other conservation agencies***	\$0	\$250,000
Value of land contributed to government partners and other conservation agencies	\$0	\$223,500
<i>Total Program Expenses and Capital Allocations</i>	<i>\$3,832,157</i>	<i>\$4,339,046</i>

General and Administrative	\$364,448	\$324,427
Fundraising	\$449,745	\$437,479
<i>Total Administration and Fundraising</i>	<i>\$814,193</i>	<i>\$761,906</i>

TOTAL EXPENSES AND CAPITAL ALLOCATIONS	\$4,646,350	\$5,100,952
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NET RESULT Support and Revenue over Expenses and Capital Allocations	\$129,685	\$132,748
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EXPENSES/CAPITAL ALLOCATIONS AS A PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL

Total Program Expenses and Capital Allocations	82%	85%
General and Administrative	8%	6%
Fundraising	10%	9%

ASSET, LIABILITY & FUND BALANCE SUMMARY

Book value of conservation land****		
Preserves owned in fee (11,626 acres)	\$20,290,956	\$20,126,754
Easements (1,614 acres)	\$3,693,138	\$2,163,940
Endowments and land preservation fund**	\$11,208,287	\$10,419,174
Cash balances in operating and land funds	\$626,992	\$577,507
Notes and grants receivable	(\$2,196)	\$186,463
Buildings and equipment net of depreciation	\$447,708	\$473,114
Other assets	\$17,188	\$22,853
<i>Total Assets</i>	<i>\$36,282,073</i>	<i>\$33,969,805</i>
Total loans for land purchases	\$681,105	\$828,962
Deferred restricted revenue	\$0	\$337,092
Other liabilities	\$4,164	\$19,353
<i>Total Liabilities</i>	<i>\$685,269</i>	<i>\$1,185,407</i>
Total Fund Balances (Net Worth)	\$35,596,804	\$32,784,398
Total Liabilities and Fund Balances	\$36,282,073	\$33,969,805

Footnotes:

The Nature Conservancy is audited as one financial entity, including all state offices; hence Connecticut Chapter statements have not been audited separately.

The above statement represents cash and land only, and does not include pledges or planned gifts.

*In last year's financial report Acorn gifts were included under "individual contributions." In this year's report, for both fiscal years 1996 and 1995, they have been moved under dues.

**Investment income and endowment values exclude unrealized gains.

*** This amount includes only the actual purchase price of land sold. It does not include direct acquisition costs such as surveys, appraisals, and taxes related to the acquisition of these properties. Such costs are recorded as conservation program expenses. In fiscal 1995, the only sale was of a conservation easement at Selden Creek to the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection.

****Land is booked the lower of cost or market value.



1996 Chapter Donors

This annual report is intended to give members and supporters of The Nature Conservancy Connecticut Chapter an overview of the past year's progress, to report our fiscal position, and to thank you all for making this progress possible. The following pages contain lists of those who contributed \$100 or more during fiscal year 1996: July 1, 1995 to June 30, 1996.

We would have liked to have listed all of our donors and members, but the cost would have been prohibitive. Please know that we are deeply grateful for every contribution to our work.

PROGRAM & PROJECT DONATIONS

Donors of \$1,000 or more to a specific chapter project or program.

Anonymous
Louis M. Bacon
Austin D. Barney II
Albert Betteridge
Clyde S. Brooks
Randy & Nunn Byers
Joanne Choly
John Choly
Michael Choly
The Clemente Foundation
The Community Foundation of Southeastern Conn.
Mr. & Mrs. William Goodby
Richard H. & Esther B. Goodwin
Ellsworth S. Grant
Anthony P. & Sally S. Grassi
Stewart & Constance Greenfield
Julie & Parker Hall
John & Kelly Hartman Foundation
The Geoffrey C. Hughes Foundation
Hull Trading Company
Mr. & Mrs. David R. Jaffe
Jeniam Clarkson Foundation
Barbara & John Kashanski
The Chester W. Kitchings Foundation
Mr. Ray Lamontagne
Mrs. Robert R. Lansburgh
Henry D. Lord
Donald & Dorothy McCluskey
H. Bruce McEver
Ms. Josephine Merck
Newman's Own
Norfolk Land Trust Inc.
The Overbrook Foundation
William E. Phillips
R & C B Foundation
The Anne S. Richardson Fund
Robinson & Cole
Mr. & Mrs. David Sargent
D. Thompson Sargent
The Sasco Foundation
Sound Shore Management
Texaco
Wade F.B. Thompson
Helen Tomaszewski

The Den Preserve

Donors of \$100 or more

Dorothy Abrams
Howard J. Aibel
Robert Lewis Anderson
Anonymous
Mr. & Mrs. Harvey D. Attra
Mrs. Roy Barnett
Mr. & Mrs. Andrew W. Bisset
Dr. & Mrs. Stephen J. Bittner
Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Blackburn
Eileen S. Buckley
Mr. & Mrs. Frank Calfo
Mary J. Callahan
Philip Caputo
Chris R. Card
Mrs. Lee T. Chandler
Mr. & Mrs. Robert L. Clark
Charles D. Cole
Thomas S. Coleman
Mr. & Mrs. Kevin A. Connolly
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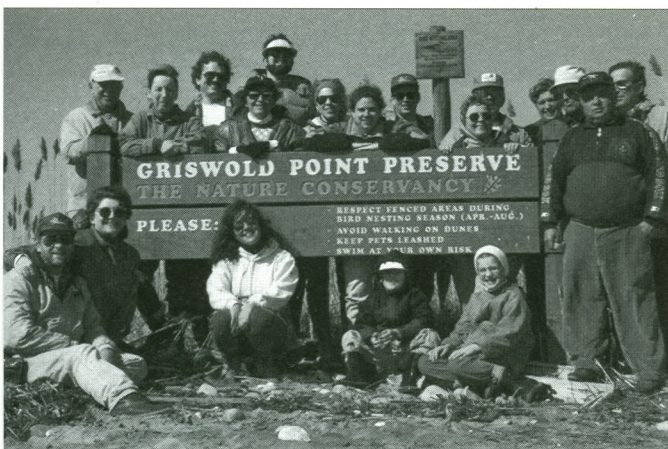
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The Legacy Club honors those who have included The Nature Conservancy in their estate plans.

People highlighted with an asterisk made one or more irrevocable donations in the form of planned gifts in fiscal year 1996. They are Honorary Life Members of The Nature Conservancy.

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Memorial Gifts

In the past year, The Nature Conservancy Connecticut Chapter received generous memorial contributions in the names of the following people. The trustees and staff of the chapter wish to thank the families and loved ones of these people for including the Conservancy in their lives at this time. A memorial gift that furthers our conservation work is one that can be cherished and valued for generations.

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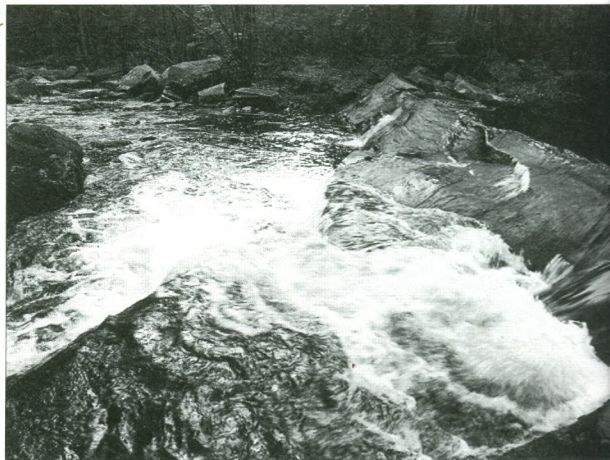
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ON THE COVER: LEAST TERN
PHOTOGRAPHED BY CLAY TAYLOR;
DETAIL PHOTOGRAPHS BY
GEORGE BELLEROSE.

Beyond the Call

by chapter members David & Jean Sargent of Hatchett's Point, Old Lyme

It has been our privilege this summer to witness one of the most meaningful efforts of environmental dedication that we have ever encountered.

A colony of least terns (*Sterna antillarum*), which are threatened in Connecticut, and a pair of piping plovers (*Charadrius melodus*), federally threatened, had decided to set up housekeeping on The Nature Conservancy's beach at Hatchett's Point. Their nests, no more than scrapes in the sand, are extremely vulnerable both to natural predators and to human disturbance. The area was carefully cordoned off, educational signs were posted, and a wire enclosure was placed around the plover nest to protect it from predators, once its four eggs had been laid.

Preserve Monitor Margot Booth and state Department of Environmental Protection Research Assistant Marlanea French checked in regularly. On July 12, one day before the arrival of tropical storm Bertha, the eggs hatched. The result was three adventuresome plover chicks, each about the size of a marshmallow. Four least tern chicks had hatched previously. On July 13 Bertha arrived with gale force winds and huge, pounding surf that pummeled the beach almost to the dunes. This was when the volunteer army, organized and recruited by Margot and by Conservancy Preserve Steward David Gumbart, began their four-hour stands, monitoring the birds on a 24-hour basis to keep predators and humans at bay.

How the day-old plover chicks managed to survive the violent tropical storm is a wonder in itself, but the dedication of these wonderful volunteers is a marvel as well. They stayed there on the beach in the darkness and in light through all kinds of weather without protest or complaint, acts of selfless dedication that are deserving of the highest praise. This vigil was continued for nine

days, by which time it was hoped that the chicks might have mastered at least some of the earliest and more basic lessons of survival. The following five days, 4 a.m. to 7 a.m. watches ensued, in order to deter the possibility of early morning gull predation.

Margot and this cadre of volunteers should take satisfaction in the knowledge that they all went well beyond the call. Their sense of dedication should be an inspiration to us all. 🌿

NOTE: The chapter is pleased to report that after the Sargents submitted this article, the plover chicks born on July 12 fledged on Aug. 15.



Some of the staff and volunteers who helped monitor piping plovers this summer gathered at the Sargent home for a cookout. Standing, left to right: Marty and Nancy Williams, Anne Sargent, David Sargent, Joan Smith, Frank Finley, Val and Shari Guarino, Marlanea French of the state Department of Environmental Protection, Margot Booth and David Gumbart (with Spencer) of The Nature Conservancy, and Fred Moore.

Hatchetts Point Volunteers, July 1996

John Atkinson, Old Lyme; Tiffany Bingham, Salem Mr. & Mrs. Richard Blair, Old Lyme; Bill & Sara Donahue, Torrington; Frank Finley, Avon; Priscilla Flynn, Clinton; Hank & Gerri Golet, Lyme; Shari & Val Guarino, Southington; Sue Gudaitis, Marlborough; Carol Kimball, Lyme; Jim Kolbe, Manchester; Tom Ledbetter, Columbia, S.C.; Mark Lewchick, Old Lyme; Fred Moore, Old Lyme; Rick Middleton, Manchester; Joan Smith, Niantic; Marina Supple, Stamford; Mark Szantyr, Storrs; Shirley Talcott, Old Lyme.

Northwestern Connecticut: A Locus of Biodiversity

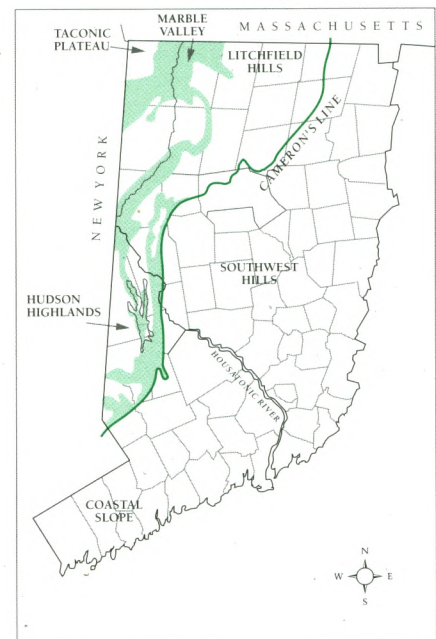
continued from page 5

New York's Hudson Highlands. The Housatonic Highlands plateau is yet another landscape feature of the northwest highlands, delineated to the north, east and south by the northern marble valley.

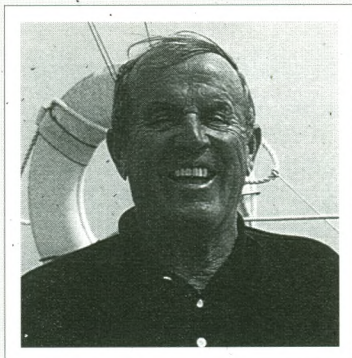
Connecticut's marble valley extends in a sinuous corridor along much of the western part of the state. It forms interior lowlands that are anywhere from 200 to 700 feet below the surrounding upland plateaus. Significant wetlands occur in many areas of the marble valley, including lakes, open calcareous marshes (fens) and extensive floodplains. In areas where groundwater has seeped through the soft carbonate rocks of the marble valley, caves have formed, including New England's longest (with over 1000 feet of passageways), located in Salisbury.

Look for more information on the geology, climate, and vegetation of this fascinating corner of the state in the next *From the Land*. 🌿

— JUDY PRESTON



ENDICOTT P. DAVISON 1923 TO 1996



The late Endicott Davison was a good friend to The Nature Conservancy, and will be deeply missed. A partner in the law firm Winthrop, Stimson, Putnam & Roberts in New York, he found time to actively support The Nature Conservancy and many other non-profit organizations, including Yale, the Quebec-Labrador Foundation, the Connecticut River Museum, the National Parks and Recreation Association and Mystic Seaport Museum.

Davison and his family have shown vision and leadership in the protection of the Lord Cove marsh in Lyme—one of the highest quality brackish tidal marshes in the northeast and a core site of the Tidelands of the Connecticut River program. Here, the Davisons conserved more than 100 critical acres of wetlands and associated uplands through donations of both land and conservation easements.

To honor Endicott Davison and his tireless enthusiasm for conservation endeavors, we have created The Davison Award. This award is to be given to individuals or private companies whose actions show vision, innovation and leadership towards the conservation of the Tidelands of the Connecticut River, qualities exemplified by Endicott Davison. Jane I. Davison accepted the first Davison Award on behalf of her late husband at the chapter's October 19 annual meeting (see page 9).

— JULIANA BARRETT

Off the Beaten Track in Panama and Costa Rica's Talamanca Coast

March 12 through March 22, 1997

Panama's spectacular and remote Darien and Bastimentos National Parks, along with one of Costa Rica's less-visited corners, are the destination for the chapter's 1997 International Tour. Chapter Director of Government Relations David Sutherland will be one of the trip escorts.

Costa Rica has understandably become one of this hemisphere's most popular ecotourism sites, but relatively few travelers have visited the country's southeastern Caribbean coast.

Participants will fly into San Jose, Costa Rica on Wednesday, March 12, and spend the next morning riding through a rainforest canopy on an aerial tram, observing birds and mammals usually not seen from the ground. We will next journey to Puerto Viejo, a quaint Caribbean village, from which we will visit the beautiful Cahuita National Park. We will then be driven through the remote Talamanca coastal region across the border into Panama.

After two days on Panama's Caribbean

island of Bocas del Toro, touring the many islands of the Bastimentos National Marine Park, including a visit to an indigenous community, the group will fly to Cana, the camp maintained by our hosts, the Association for the Conservation of Nature (ANCON), in the heart of the 1.7 million-acre Darien National Park.

As previous travelers will attest, Cana deserves its reputation as one of the premier birding sites in the world. Although our trip participants are usually a mix of serious birders and those who are more casual, birding is unavoidable at Cana. Blue and yellow macaws, chestnut mandibled toucans and many other species are regular—in some cases constant—visitors to the camp.

After visits to ANCON's Punta Patiño Lodge on the Pacific Coast, and the Panama Canal, we will depart for home on Saturday, March 22. Last year's trip was sold out with a waiting list, so if you are interested in coming, call David Sutherland at (860) 344-0716 soon to get more information about the 1997 tour.

Latin America & Caribbean Director Visits Connecticut

Members of the Connecticut Chapter and the Westport Nature Center for Environmental Activities had the opportunity to meet and listen to one of the United States' top experts on Latin America on October 27, when the two organizations hosted a talk by Alec Watson, the director of The Nature Conservancy's Latin America and Caribbean Division.

Watson was selected for this post last January after a distinguished career in the State Department. Most recently, he was Assistant Secretary of State for Inter-American Affairs, before which he served as Deputy Permanent Representative to the United Nations, Ambassador to Peru, and Deputy Chief of Mission in Brasilia, Brazil; Bogota, Colombia; and La Paz, Bolivia.

Watson spoke to an afternoon audience at the Nature Center about his perspectives on

the challenges facing countries in Central and South America and the Caribbean, and the Conservancy's work throughout the region. The Conservancy assists and cooperates with governments and non-governmental organizations in almost all of our southern neighbors to protect the extraordinary diversity of plants and animals found in the tropics. 🌿



© Expressly Portraits, Alexandria, VA

— DAVID SUTHERLAND

36th Annual Meeting Welcomes New Director

More than 150 trustees, volunteers, members, friends and staff of The Nature Conservancy Connecticut Chapter attended its 36th annual meeting on Oct. 19 at the Connecticut River Museum in Essex. It was a chance to meet national Conservancy President John C. Sawhill, and the chapter's new Executive Director Denise Schlener. The chapter would like to thank Bruce Yenawine and the Connecticut River Museum for allowing us to hold our meeting inside due to the severe wind and rain.

AWARDS

The chapter recognized the following departing board members for their contributions to the chapter:

- Robert M. Schneider of Lyme, ten years on the board, including two terms as chair.
- Randolph K. Byers of Wilton, eight years on the board.
- Kevin J. Coady of Branford, four years on the board.
- Raymond A. LaMontagne of Wilton, six years on the board.

WHITE OAK AWARDS are presented annually to Conservancy volunteers who have made outstanding contributions to the chapter.

Carolyn Spencer, Brooklyn

"For your love of, dedication to, and exemplary stewardship efforts at our Rock Spring Preserve."

Ed Ruffleth, Canterbury

"For your years of tireless devotion and exemplary care on behalf of our Rock Spring Preserve."

Allen Prior, Fairfield

"In recognition of your longstanding loyalty to The Nature Conservancy and The Den; your regular assistance with various projects ranging from surveying and bridge building to mailings, and your pervasive positive attitude and helpful spirit."

Michael D. Fullwood, Roxbury

"In recognition for your extraordinary effort to introduce The Nature Conservancy to corporations and businesses in southwestern Connecticut, and for generating a great deal of interest and enthusiasm for the Conservancy's efforts to preserve Connecticut's natural areas."

CERTIFICATES OF SPECIAL RECOGNITION are presented annually to individuals and organizations who have made an outstanding contribution to the preservation of natural areas and biological diversity in Connecticut.

Christine Woodside,
The Day, New London

"For excellence in journalism, reporting on conservation and environmental issues."

Thomas H. Maloney,
Connecticut River Steward, Connecticut River Watershed Council, Easthampton, Mass.

"For your tireless enthusiasm and commitment to protecting the resources of the Tidelands of the Connecticut River."

Stephen H. Broderick,
Cooperative Extension Educator - Forestry
University of Connecticut Cooperative
Extension Center, Brooklyn

"For your boundless enthusiasm, energy and commitment in bringing forest stewardship resources to the Tidelands of the Connecticut River."

Bailey Pryor,
Producer, Sonalysts Inc., Waterford

"For your valuable services, exemplary work, and creative vision in the creation of a promotional videotape for the chapter."

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

At the recommendation of the nominating committee, the following changes were made to the chapter board of trustees. Three new trustees, whose biographies appeared in the last issue of *From the Land*, were elected to the board for three-year terms:

Austin D. Barney II, West Simsbury
Albert Betteridge, Greenwich
Rita Bowlby, Farmington

Elected as officers for one-year terms:

Anthony P. Grassi, Wilton
Chairman
Daniel P. Brown Jr., West Granby
Vice Chairman for Land Acquisition
Austin D. Barney II, West Simsbury
Vice Chairman for Development
Evan S. Griswold, Old Lyme
Vice Chairman for Stewardship
Eunice S. Groark, Hartford
Treasurer
Peter B. Cooper, Woodbridge
Secretary

Re-elected for a three-year term:

J. Wyatt Uhlein, Litchfield

The Davison Award

Jane I. Davison accepted the first Davison Award on behalf of her late husband at the meeting. The chapter named the award for the late Endicott Davison of Lyme to honor his many contributions to the Tidelands of the Connecticut River. The Davison Award will be presented to individuals or private companies whose actions show vision, innovation and leadership towards the conservation of the Tidelands of the Connecticut River, qualities exemplified by Endicott Davison.



Jane I. Davison of Lyme (left) accepts the first Davison Award on behalf of her late husband, Endicott P. Davison, from Dr. Juliana Barrett of The Nature Conservancy Connecticut Chapter (right). Chapter Board Chairman Anthony P. Grassi of Wilton (center) applauds.

From more information on . . .

. . . work parties, please call David Gumbart at (860) 344-0716.

. . . The Den or Katharine Ordway preserves, please call (203) 226-4991.

Advance registration required for all walks, unless noted otherwise, and number of participants is usually limited to 20.

**Winter Tree Identification Walk,
Katharine Ordway Preserve.**

Sunday, Dec. 8, 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Leader: Arborist Fred Moore.

Five-Mile Hike

Sunday, Dec. 8, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

The Ravine Trail in Redding features ancient hemlocks and impressive rocks. Carpooling to the start, participants will continue past the reservoir to the great ledges and back to the parking spot on Route 53 in Weston.
Leaders: Jonathan Brochstein, Leonard Horowitz, and Lisa Reese.

Family Nature Walk, The Den

Sunday, Dec. 15, 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

All of nature is preparing for winter. Leaders: Jackie and Dick Troxell.

Family Nature Walk, The Den

Sunday, Jan. 5, 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Leaders: Jackie and Dick Troxell.

Nature Photography with Alison Wachstein

Monday, January 6, 8 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

The first of a three-part series for adults takes place in the photographer's studio, with a slide presentation and basic instruction on nature photography and the figure in the landscape. Limit: 20 participants. Beginning photographers welcome. See also January 12 and 27.

Adult Hike, The Den

Tuesday, Jan. 7, 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Enjoy winter with Leaders Doris Falk and Roy Spies. No registration required.

**Nature Photography Walk with
Alison Wachstein at The Den**

Sunday, January 12, 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

In the second of three sessions for adults, this professional photographer will answer questions as individuals photograph their subject matter.

Rambler to Ambler, The Den

Sunday, Jan. 26, 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Three-mile moderately strenuous walk parallels the Saugatuck River, and climbs narrow and rugged trails into Ambler Gorge to the stream, waterfall, rocky cliffs and vistas.
Leaders: Cia Marion and Sam Willis.

Nature Photography with Alison Wachstein

Monday, Jan. 27, 8 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

In this final session, return to the artist's studio to share a positive, informal critique of photographs taken at The Den.

Family Nature Walk, The Den

Sunday, February 2, 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Experience winter at the preserve.
Leaders: Peg Peterson and Sam Willis.

Adult Hike, The Den

Monday Feb. 10, 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

A winter walk with Leaders Harvey Franzel and Helene Weatherill. No registration required.

**Land Trust Service Bureau Annual
Convocation of Land Trusts.**

February/March.

Call Martha Rice, (860) 344-0716 for a brochure in late December.

Owl Prowl, The Den

Saturday, Mar. 1, 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

Larry Fischer will begin this program with a talk on owls. Please wear warm clothes and bring binoculars and a flashlight. Minimum age: 10.

Historical Tour of The Den

Sunday, Mar. 9, 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Learn how The Den got its name, how early Americans and colonists adapted to this part of Connecticut, and what evidence they left behind.
Leaders: Carolyn Butler and Roy Spies.

Adult Hike, Katharine Ordway Preserve

Tuesday, Mar. 11, 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Different tree barks and formation of stone walls are striking this time of year.
Leaders: Mary Gallahan and Howard Pierpont.
No registration required.

Workday, The Den

Saturday, Mar. 15, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Volunteers can help get the trails ready for spring.

Family Nature Walk, The Den

Sunday, Mar. 16, 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Look for signs of spring with leaders Dorothy Abrams and Howard Pierpont.

Griswold Point Work Party, Old Lyme

Saturday, Mar. 29 (time to be announced).

Join chapter staff for one of our most popular work days, preparing a nesting area for the threatened piping plover and least tern.

Photo Exhibit

The Den is encouraging both amateur and professional photographers who have taken pictures of natural features at either The Den or the Katharine Ordway Preserve to submit up to five photographs for an exhibit planned for March 1997 at the Weston Library. If you are interested, you need to get an entry form by calling The Den at (203) 226-4991, indicate your intention to submit an entry, and return the form to The Den at P.O. Box 1162, Weston CT 06883 by Feb. 3, 1997.

A gathering of award recipients at the Annual Meeting: At left, Certificates of Special Recognition (from left to right) Chapter Director Denise Schlener, recipients Steve Broderick, Christine Woodside, and Kara Fullmer, and Conservancy President John C. Sawhill; White Oak Awards (from left to right) Chapter Director Denise Schlener, Director of Science and Stewardship Judy Preston, award recipients Michael D. Fullwood and Carolyn C. Spencer, and Conservancy President John C. Sawhill.



Save Taxes in 1996 and Benefit Nature!

How to Make a Gift by December 31

As you plan for your 1996 taxes, now is the time to consider how a gift to The Nature Conservancy might benefit both the Conservancy's mission and your financial situation. Below is a brief summary of giving opportunities.

Gifts of Cash: Most year-end charitable gifts are made by check. If you itemize, such outright gifts are fully deductible up to 50 percent of your adjusted gross income.

Gifts of Stock: If you sell appreciated stock, you will pay a capital gains tax on its increase in value. However, by donating stock that you have held for more than one year to the Conservancy, you avoid tax on your gain, and your charitable contribution deduction is equal to the full fair market value of the stock.

Gifts of Real Estate: A residence, vacation home, farm or vacant lot may have so appreciated in value that its sale would mean a sizeable capital gains tax. By making a gift of this property instead, you avoid the capital gains tax and receive a charitable deduction for the full fair market value of the property. An independent appraisal of your property is required by the Internal Revenue Service if you wish to claim a deduction.

The Conservancy will conduct a staff site inspection for all real estate accepted as a donation. If the property provides critical habitat for rare and endangered species or

natural communities, the Conservancy will endeavor to provide for appropriate protection. If the land is *not* ecologically significant, it will be considered a "trade land" gift. Trade lands are sold, with the consent of the donor, and the proceeds are used for natural area protection elsewhere.

Depending on the donor's needs, trade lands can be donated by several methods: *Outright* as described above; under a *Retained Life Estate* whereby the owners use the property through their lifetimes; or through a *Charitable Remainder Trust*, a form of life income gift.

Life Income Gifts: Charitable life income arrangements allow you to *increase your income, receive a charitable contribution deduction, avoid capital gains tax and* support The Nature Conservancy. Income would be paid to you and/or a loved one for life, after which the principal would be distributed to The Nature Conservancy. Popular life income gifts include the Long Term Income Fund, the Charitable Gift Annuity, the Charitable Remainder Unitrust, and the Deferred Gift Annuity.

If you are interested in receiving more information about any of these options, please call Carol Kimball at the Connecticut Chapter at (860) 344-0716, or send in the coupon below. 🌿

For More Information on Tax-Saving Opportunities:

- ◇ Stocks
- ◇ Real Estate
- ◇ Life Income Gifts
- ◇ Please send me information about the Legacy Club and how to include The Nature Conservancy in my Will.
- ◇ I (we) have remembered The Nature Conservancy in my (our) Will or trust.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Telephone: home _____ office _____

Please mail to: The Nature Conservancy, 55 High Street, Middletown, CT 06457-3788

THE NATURE CONSERVANCY

Connecticut Chapter
55 High Street
Middletown, CT 06457-3788
(860) 344-0716
fax (860) 344-1334

National Office: 1815 North Lynn Street,
Arlington, VA 22209

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From the Land

Published quarterly for the members of
The Nature Conservancy Connecticut Chapter
Design: Monotropia, Madison

From the Land is printed on recycled paper.

Protecting Marshland from Development at Pratt & Post Coves

© ROBERT PERRON



Post Cove in Deep River

fundraising. By repaying the loan the Conservancy preserves its ability to act quickly when needed. This ability has been vital to the Conservancy's success in protecting key habitats throughout Connecticut.

Pratt and Post Coves include pristine freshwater tidal marshes that provide habitat for a number of state listed plant species, including golden club (*Orontium aquaticum*) and arrowleaf (*Sagittaria montevidensis* ssp. *spongiosa* & *Sagittaria subulata*).

The coves are separated only by a stretch of marsh bordering the Connecticut River, and include numerous submerged aquatic plant beds that provide feeding and spawning habitat for fish. Wild rice grows in abundance, attracting many species of migratory birds. 🌿

— LESLEY OLSEN

The Connecticut Chapter has negotiated the purchase of a critical 3.48 acre parcel as an addition to its holdings at Pratt and Post Coves in Deep River. The purchase, scheduled for January, will bring the total acreage protected at this important site to 30. The chapter is now working to raise money for this property.

This acquisition is of particular significance to the chapter because it is in a core area of the Tidelands of the Connecticut River, one of the Last Great Places.

"This purchase is a clear statement of the Conservancy's commitment to preserving the marshes of this Tidelands core site," said Chapter Executive Director Denise Schlener. "We are confident our members and the surrounding community will share our enthusiasm for this site and will help us meet our goal."

Half the tract is wooded with rocky ledge, and half is marsh. It is located on the northwest side of Post Cove, the southernmost of the two coves. Development of this parcel would certainly have had an impact on the marsh.

The chapter will purchase the tract for \$125,000. A fundraising goal of a little

more than \$160,000 has been set to cover acquisition costs and provide for the long term stewardship of this parcel. The chapter will seek to raise a substantial portion of the necessary funds prior to the planned closing in early January of 1997.

The remainder of the funds will be provided by an internal loan from the chapter's Land Preservation Fund, a revolving fund that is repaid with interest through private



CONNECTICUT
CHAPTER

From the Land

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